

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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STATE FOR CU/EE, EUR/SOV; LENINGRAD FOR P&C; USIA FOR IEU

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SUBJ: GRADUATE STUDENTS IN PERFORMING ARTS

REF: MOSCOW 1616

1. AFTER REVIEW OF US PANEL, EMBASSY BELIEVES LUSTIK (SECOND PLACE) SHOULD BE SHIFTED TO FIFTH PLACE. HER TOPIC IS VERY LOOSELY DEFINED AND SHE HAS NOT PRECISELY STATED WHAT SHE WOULD DO HERE, MAKING IT DIFFICULT FOR MINCULT TO DETERMINE PROPER PLACEMENT WITHIN SOVIET TEACHING SYSTEM. HER RECOMMENDATIONS AND OTHER SUPPORTING DATA ARE NOT STRONG. IN CONTRAST, SUPPORTING DATA FOR COFFMAN (THIRD PLACE) IS SO OUTSTANDING IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW SHE SHOULD BE RANKED BEHIND ANY OF THE CANDIDATES. BELIEVE SECOND PLACE IS MINIMUM APPROPRIATE.

2. REGRETTABLY APPLICATION FORMS FOR BOTH COFFMAN AND LARRABEE (FIRST PLACE) ARE HAND-WRITTEN AND VIRTUALLY ILLEGIBLE. EMBASSY HOPES IIE WILL CORRECT THIS IN FUTURE AND ALSO WILL PRESENT MAJOR PARTS OF APPLICATIONS IN RUSSIAN. EMBASSY HAS PREPARED NEW COVER AND SUMMARY FORMS AND IS TRANSLATING PRINCIPAL DATA. EXPECT TO PASS MINCULT BEFORE DEADLINE.

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3. CASE FOR MOROSKI (SIXTH PLACE) LIMITED BY LACK OF SIGNIFICANT PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE. EMBASSY HAS RESERVATIONS ABOUT FORWARDING BOTH LUSTIK AND MOROSKI APPLICATIONS, BUT WILL DO SO ON STRENGTH OF IIE RECOMMENDATIONS. SINCE MINCULT PROBABLY WILL NOT TAKE MORE THAN TWO CANDIDATES, FIFTH AND SIXTH PLACES DO NOT STAND MUCH CHANCE; HOWEVER, MINCULT SELECTIONS IN PAST HAVE BEEN UNPREDICTABLE.

4. REDOMMEND NEXT YEAR'S COMPETITION BE RESTRICTED TO PERFORMERS AND PRACTITIONERS IN THE ARTS. TEACHERS OF PERFORMING ARTS COULD ALSO BE INCLUDED IF THEIR STUDY PLAN IS SPECIFIC AS WELL AS FEASIBLE BY MEANS OF AFFILIATION WITH A MINCULT-SUPERVISED INSTITUTE. APPLICATIONS WITH GENERALIZED GOALS SUGGESTING UNSPECIFIED AND VARIED AFFILIATIONS IN USSR, OR FREE-FLOATING FORMAT PERHAPS POSSIBLE ON FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIPS IN OTHER COUNTRIES, HAVE NO CHANCE OF SUCCESS. BURDEN SHOULD BE ON APPLICANT TO KNOW USSR POTENTIAL WELL ENOUGH TO DRAW UP CONCRETE STUDY PLAN. IIE MIGHT BENEFIT FROM CONSULTATIONS WITH IREX ON THIS ISSUE. STOESEL

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